

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claim 1 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of purifying L-glutamic acid by transformation recrystallization ~~which method comprises~~ comprising maintaining crude crystals of L-glutamic acid containing α crystals of L-glutamic acid in an aqueous solvent at a temperature of from 50°C to the boiling point of said aqueous solvent in the coexistence of active carbon until about 30% or more of the crystals of L-glutamic acid have been transformed into β crystals thereof, the amount of said aqueous solvent being an amount not more than the amount sufficient (~~i.e., an amount insufficient~~) to form a saturated solution of said β crystals of L-glutamic acid.